

PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO THE 2022 PUBLIC ORDER EMERGENCY

IN THE MATTER OF A PUBLIC INQUIRY

under the *Emergencies Act*, RSC 1985, c 22 (4th Supp), ss 63(1)
and the *Public Inquiries Act*, RSC 1985, c I-11, Part I

AFFIDAVIT OF SEAN FLYNN
Affirmed September 30, 2022
(Pursuant to Rule 49 of the Inquiry's Rules for Procedure and Practice)

I, SEAN FLYNN, of the City of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario, AFFIRM:

1. I am a resident of Ottawa and concerned citizen. I reside in the New Edinburgh neighbourhood located approximately three kilometers from the core of downtown Ottawa.
2. From January 28, 2022 to February 19, 2022 I regularly ventured around downtown Ottawa, by walking and cycling, to bear witness to the Freedom Convoy 2022 protest occupying the area. As such, I have personal knowledge of the matters to which I hereinafter depose except where I have stated my evidence to be on information and belief, in which case I have indicated the source of my information and my belief in the truth of the information.

JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 6, 2022

3. From January 28, 2022 to February 6, 2022, I witnessed extremely loud and constant horn honking by the Freedom Convoy participants occupying downtown Ottawa.

4. Even from inside my residence in New Edinburgh, several kilometres away from downtown, I could hear the sound of honking horns very clearly from January 28, 2022 to the afternoon of February 7, 2022. On January 31, 2022 and February 1, 2022 I could hear the intermittent honking of horns over the course of almost 20 hours.
5. Troubled by reports I read in the media in which witnesses to the events unfolding near Parliament Hill claimed that the protests were not disruptive or particularly loud, which did not accord with what I was hearing from my residence several kilometers away, I decided to attend some of the locations where the Freedom Convoy trucks were situated in order to assess the situation for myself.
6. On the evening of January 29, 2022, I ventured to Parliament Hill, where I witnessed very loud honking and protesters setting off fireworks in very close proximity to building and people. I recorded a 12 second video of these events on my iPhone and posted it to my personal Twitter account @sfyry at 7:59PM: <https://twitter.com/sfyry/status/1487591313453338629>. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"** is a copy of the video that I recorded and posted to Twitter on January 29, 2022.
7. On January 30, 2022, I walked to the vicinity of Rideau Street and Sussex Drive where the sound of honking horns was louder than anything I have ever heard. I recorded a 26 second video of this honking on my iPhone and posted it to my personal Twitter account @sfyry at 8:50PM:

<https://twitter.com/sfyro/status/1487966419778215938>. Attached hereto as **Exhibit “B”** is a copy of the video that I recorded and posted to Twitter on January 30, 2022.

8. On February 1, 2022, I walked from my home to Parliament Hill and arrived there at approximately 10:50PM. I was shocked by what I heard. The noise from assembled vehicles on Wellington Street was overwhelmingly and oppressively loud. The sound was so loud I could feel it reverberating throughout my entire body. The honking sounds were being emitted from many vehicles including transport trucks. I was also overwhelmed by the heavy diesel fumes that were being generated by the many trucks idling in that area.
9. On February 5, 2022 I attended the intersections of Bank Street and Slater Street. Long rows of several large transport trucks were parked on each side of Slater Street. At around 8:05PM I observe the trucks and vehicles at this intersection honking their horns so loudly that I received an alert on my Smart Watch, stating: “[caution symbol] Loud- Repeated, long term exposure to sounds at this level can damage your hearing.” I recorded a 45 second video of these events on my iPhone and posted it to my personal Twitter account @sfyro at 8:20PM: <https://twitter.com/sfyro/status/1490133171106631680>. Attached hereto as **Exhibit “C”** is a copy of the video that I recorded and posted to Twitter on February 5, 2022.

10. In the same tweet posted on February 5, 2022, I stated that I had also attended at the intersection of Bank Street and Queen Street that evening, where my Smart Watch had recorded sound levels hitting 105 decibels.
11. After walking downtown for approximately 45 minutes on February 5, 2022, I went to visit a friend. When I arrived, she commented that my clothes smelled heavily of gas fumes.

FEBRUARY 7-10, 2022

12. I am aware that, on February 7, 2022, a Judge of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice granted an Order for an injunction, prohibiting the use of air horns and train horns in downtown Ottawa for a period of 10 days. I learned about this Order by receiving a “Breaking News” alert from the CBC app on my cell phone.
13. After the injunction Order was granted on February 7, 2022, it was my observation that it became much quieter in downtown Ottawa for a few days. When walking and cycling downtown in the days that followed the granting of the Order, I had been listening for honking and did not really hear any.
14. Even at my home in New Edinburgh, I initially experienced relief from the sound of loud honking that could previously be heard from the protesters downtown. This had been a welcome change.
15. On February 8, 2022, I ventured to Parliament Hill and observed Freedom Convoy participants lining up many gas jerrycans in front of trucks parked in

the area. I recorded a 15 second video of these events on my iPhone and posted it to my personal Twitter account @sfyry at 8:56PM:

<https://twitter.com/sfyry/status/1491229389123911680>. Attached hereto as **Exhibit “D”** is a copy of the video that I recorded and posted to Twitter on February 8, 2022.

16. When I was walking downtown on February 9, 2022 between 12AM to 1AM, I observed that the vehicles had spread out as far the intersection of Kent Street and Cooper Street in Centretown, a mostly residential area.

FEBRUARY 11-18, 2022

17. Starting on Friday, February 11, 2022, I began to hear more regularly occurring honking of air horns and train horns downtown once again.
18. While walking downtown on Saturday, February 12, 2022, I witnessed a number of Freedom Convoy participants blatantly honking horns. Just before 5PM, I observed and recorded a 55 second video of a number of trucks parked at the intersection of Kent Street and Albert Street, revving their engines and intermittently honking very loud horns. In this video, Convoy participants can also be seen setting off pyrotechnics. I posted this video on my personal Twitter account @sfyry at 5:01PM:
<https://twitter.com/sfyry/status/1492619885062627337>. Attached hereto as **Exhibit “E”** is a copy of the 55 second video that I recorded and posted to Twitter on February 12, 2022.

19. At around 9PM on February 12, 2022, I observed a number of trucks parked at the intersection of Albert Street and O'Connor Street, and nearly every one of these trucks were honking loud horns at that time. My Smart Watch indicated sound levels of 101 dB when this honking was occurring. I recorded a 30 second video of these events on my iPhone and posted it to my personal Twitter account @sfyro at 9:45PM:
<https://twitter.com/sfyro/status/1492691425464623105>. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "F"** is a copy of the 30 second video that I recorded and posted to Twitter on February 12 2022.
20. I reposted the video at Exhibit F to my Twitter account at 1:52AM in reply to a tweet by CBC Reporter @Travisdhanraj which stated: "And the horns continue to blare into Saturday night...@OttawaPolice seem to be unable or unwilling to enforce the law on this one. #cdnpoli #onpoli #Ottawa".
21. While walking around on February 12, 2022, I also observed Freedom Convoy participants playing music and setting off fireworks next to the War Memorial. I recorded a 49 second video of these events on my iPhone and posted it to my personal Twitter account @sfyro at 10:20PM:
<https://twitter.com/sfyro/status/1492700138179072003>. Attached hereto as **Exhibit "G"** is a copy of the 49 second video that I recorded and posted to Twitter on February 12, 2022.
22. While walking around downtown on Saturday, February 12, 2022, I did not see any police enforcement of individuals honking horns. I did at one point pass by

a few police officers who were wearing construction-grade noise cancellation ear protection.

23. On Sunday, February 13, 2022, I attended the counter-protest organized by Ottawa citizens that took place at Billings Bridge, at the intersection of Bank Street and Riverside Drive. I learned about this counter-protest on social media, including through a tweet posted by Ottawa Centre MPP Joel Harden at 9:09AM, asking for people to come join this peaceful demonstration: <https://twitter.com/JoelHardenONDP/status/1492863454499291136>. At this protest, I observed and participated in collective action of citizens joining together to block Freedom Convoy trucks and divert them from returning downtown. It was inspiring to see regular citizens rise up and act against the occupation of our city. It felt as though this counter-protest was more effective than anything that law enforcement had done to curtail the occupation.
24. On February 14, 2022, I learned through news reports that the Ontario Superior Court had granted the City of Ottawa's request for an injunction in connection with the Freedom Convoy. It was my understanding that the City's injunction prevented Convoy participants from engaging in honking and other loud noise, and also prevented other unlawful behaviour such as the setting of unlawful fires, discharging fireworks, causing noise, blocking or damaging roads, and idling vehicles.
25. On February 14, 2022, I also learned through news reports that the federal government had invoked the *Emergencies Act*.

26. In the evening on February 15, 2022, I passed by Parliament Hill after getting groceries. I observed Convoy participants blaring music while trucks honked their horns to the beat. I witnessed several OPS vehicles parked there, but not taking any enforcement measures against the noise—despite the injunctions in force at the time and the fact that the federal government had invoked the *Emergencies Act* on February 14, 2022. I recorded a video of these events on my iPhone and posted it to my personal Twitter account @sfyry at 8:35PM: <https://twitter.com/sfyry/status/1493760896539271168>. Attached hereto as **Exhibit “H”** is a copy of the video that I recorded and posted to Twitter on February 15, 2022.
27. I spent much of the day on February 16, 2022 venturing around downtown. For hours on end, I heard very loud honking from Convoy trucks. At around 7:00PM, I recorded a video on my iPhone of this loud honking outside of Parliament Hill. I posted this video to my personal Twitter account @sfyry at 7:10PM: <https://twitter.com/sfyry/status/1494101847673643011>. Attached hereto as **Exhibit “I”** is a copy of the video that I recorded and posted to Twitter on February 16, 2022.
28. In my Twitter posted on February 16, 2022, I commented that honking was some of the loudest to date, and that my Smart Watch was registering sound levels peaking at 110 decibels.

FEBRUARY 18-19, 2022

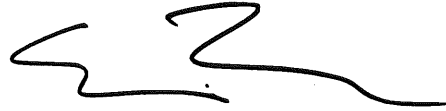
29. On February 18, 2022, I observed trucks starting to leave the downtown area on their own. In particular, between 3:30PM and 4:30PM, I observed four trucks leave downtown.
30. At around 8:00AM on February 19, 2022, I visited the intersection of Rideau Street and Sussex Street and observed that the Freedom Convoy trucks had cleared out. In contrast to the high sound readings that my Smart Watch had been registering in this area for the last several weeks, my Smart Watch recorded sound levels at a mere 45 decibels at this intersection on this morning. I took several photos of the cleared out intersection—and a photo of the low sound reading on my Smart Watch—and posted these photos to my private Twitter account @sfyry at 8:07AM:
<https://twitter.com/sfyry/status/1495022185873870853>. Attached hereto as **Exhibit “J”** are copies of the photos that I took and posted to Twitter on February 19, 2022.
31. At around 6:00PM on February 19, 2022, I ventured to the intersection of Bank Street and Queen Street and observed many Convoy participants still occupying the area. These individuals were loudly chanting, dancing, and setting off fireworks. I also noticed a substantial police presence.
32. At around 9:00PM on February 19, 2022, I passed by the intersection of Kent Street and Albert Street and noticed that the trucks had mostly cleared out.

33. I make this affidavit in good faith and for no improper purpose.

AFFIRMED before me remotely in)
accordance with O. Reg. 431/20 by)
video conference from the City of)
Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario,)
this 30th day of September, 2022.)

A commissioner for taking affidavits)

Christie Johnson
Champ Associates



Sean Flynn

This is **Exhibit A** referred to
in the Affidavit of **SEAN FLYNN**,
affirmed before me remotely
in accordance with O. Reg. 431/20
by video conference
from the City of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario,
this 30th day of September, 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. G.', written in a cursive style.

A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, etc.



Explore

⚙ Settings



Sean Flynn
@sfyro



Quote from my good friend: "It's like Evil Canada Day out there."

← Tweet
It really feels like a total free for all out in front of Parliament. And the noise pollution is atrocious for all urban residents right now.



7:59 PM · Jan 29, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

2 Likes



Please see the video file of the video posted to Twitter by @sfyro on January 29, 2022 accompanying this Affidavit.

This is **Exhibit B** referred to
in the Affidavit of **SEAN FLYNN**,
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A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, etc.



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Tweet



Sean Flynn
@sfyro



"Hey Siri, how long would a car/truck horn last if held down consistently?"



8:50 PM · Jan 30, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

1 Like



Please see the video file of the video posted to Twitter by @sfyro on January 30, 2022 accompanying this Affidavit.

This is **Exhibit C** referred to
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A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, etc.



Explore

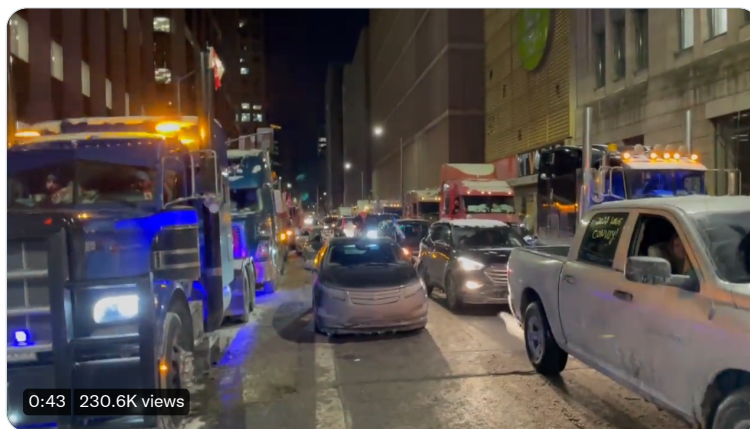
Settings

← Thread

Sean Flynn
@sfyro

...

In case you're wondering why [#centretown](#) residents and the rest of urban Ottawa are losing our minds...my watch was showing dB readings hitting 105 dB at Bank & Queen. This occupation has ZERO sympathy from us anymore. [#OttawaOccupation](#) [#GoHomeConvoy](#) [#ottcity](#)



8:20 PM · Feb 5, 2022 from Ottawa, Ontario · Twitter for iPhone

1,522 Retweets 369 Quote Tweets 4,487 Likes



Please see the video file of the video posted to Twitter by @sfyro on February 5, 2022 accompanying this Affidavit.

This is **Exhibit D** referred to
in the Affidavit of **SEAN FLYNN**,
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A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, etc.



Explore

⚙ Settings

← Tweet

Sean Flynn
@sfyro

...

So on the plus side, the courageous action led by 3 courageous citizens of Ottawa has resulted in this dudes drumming as the loudest thing I heard all evening. On the downside, it seems I interrupted a sacred blessing of the jerrycans prior to their next openly defiant refill 🧑



8:56 PM · Feb 8, 2022 from Ottawa, Ontario · Twitter for iPhone

5 Likes



Please see the video file of the video posted to Twitter by @sfyro on February 8, 2022 accompanying this Affidavit.

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A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, etc.



Explore

Settings

← Thread

Sean Flynn
@sfyro

...

So the [#OttawaOccupied](#) [#FreedomConvoy](#) has officially reached the injunction be damned point here in [#centretown](#) [#ottcity](#). These trucks are on a continuous cycle of grumbling and horn blaring with improvised pyrotechnics thrown in for good measure. [#ConvoyGoHome](#)



5:01 PM · Feb 12, 2022 from Ottawa Marriott Hotel · Twitter for iPhone

2 Retweets 1 Quote Tweet 8 Likes

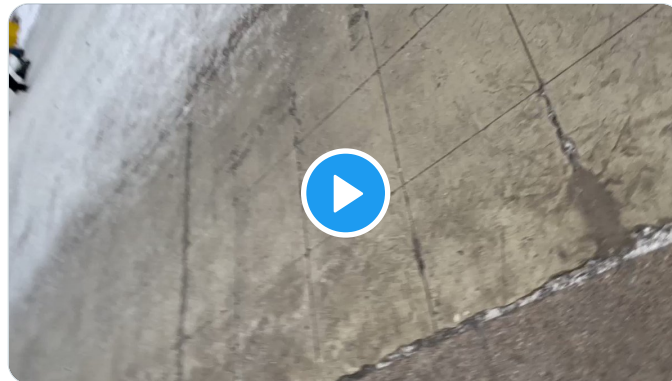


Sean Flynn @sfyro · Feb 12

...

Replying to @sfyro

And I've seen a number of these devices blaring everywhere today as well.



1

1

3



Sean Flynn @sfyro · Feb 12

...

Taken at Kent/Albert just before 1700 (with ZERO police anywhere 🚔). It's like shooting fish in a barrel at this stage as this is happening all day. Ironically I later passed by a few law enforcement officers donning construction grade noise cancellation ear protection!!!

1



1



Please see the video file of the video posted to Twitter by @sfyro on February 12, 2022 accompanying this Affidavit.

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Explore

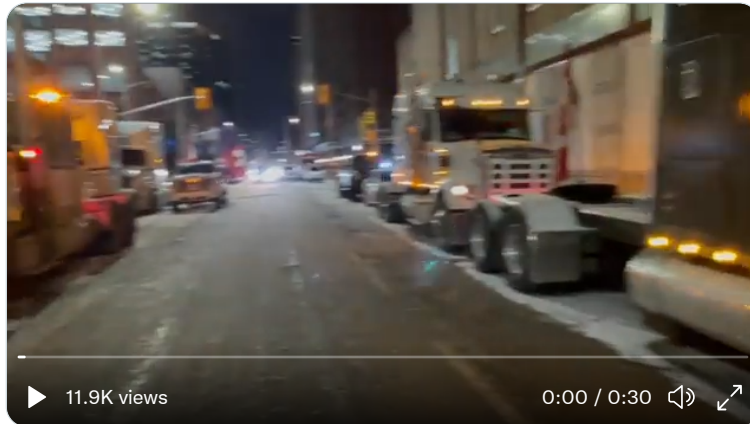
⚙ Settings



Tweet

**Sean Flynn**
@sfyro

Hey @OttawaPolice anytime you want to come by Albert near O'Connor, basically every truck here has been violating the injunction. I saw 101 dB show up on my watch. Taken at 21:02 this evening (and this is one small sample no doubt). #ottawaoccupiers #ottcity #ConvoyGoHome



▶ 11.9K views

0:00 / 0:30 🔊 ↗

9:45 PM · Feb 12, 2022 from O-Train Station - Parliament ⓘ · Twitter for iPhone

105 Retweets 8 Quote Tweets 347 Likes



Please see the video file of the video posted to Twitter by @sfyro on February 12, 2022 accompanying this Affidavit.

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Explore

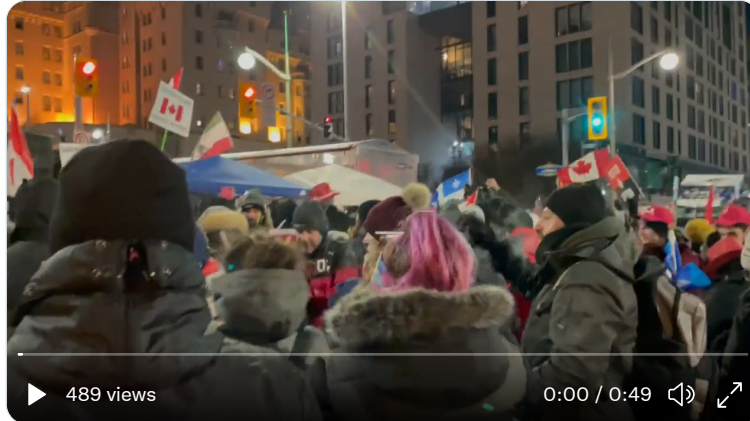
Settings



Tweet

**Sean Flynn**
@sfyro

It's hard not to be numb to this [#OccupationOttawa](#) circus. See the fireworks next to the War Memorial in the distance...while the occupation disco rages well into the night. [#ConvoyGoHome](#)



10:20 PM · Feb 12, 2022 from CF Rideau Centre · Twitter for iPhone

2 Quote Tweets 6 Likes



Please see the video file of the video posted to Twitter by @sfyro on February 12, 2022 accompanying this Affidavit.

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A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, etc.



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← Thread

Sean Flynn
@sfyro

...

So we're at Day 19 of the #OttawaOccupation and:

- ✓ @PaulChampLaw injunction in force
- ✓ #OttCity injunction in force
- ✓ Invocation of #EmergenciesAct

Yet we have the OPS guarding the parliamentary
discotheque while trucks blare their horns to MJ's
"Don't stop..." for the 🧑🏻🔪 🧑🏻



8:35 PM · Feb 15, 2022 from Parliament Hill · Twitter for iPhone

6 Retweets 4 Likes



Sean Flynn @sfyro · Feb 15

...

Replying to @sfyro

BTW, I'm not even trying hard to capture the absurdity of it all. I was literally passing by after getting some groceries and going to get some grilled chicken. I'm just a guy with a phone and impeccable timing I guess 🙄



1

3



Please see the video file of
the video posted to Twitter
by @sfyro on February 15,
2022 accompanying this
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A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, etc.



Explore

⚙ Settings

← Thread

**Sean Flynn**
@sfyro

...

WARNING: Turn down 🔊

As of 1900 it has basically been like this for the past 6 hours. The worst to date with dB readings peaking at 110 dB. I counted a number of kids and toddlers in strollers in the vicinity. People, this is Day 20 of the [#OttawaOccupation](#) [#OttCity](#)



7:10 PM · Feb 16, 2022 from Parliament Hill · Twitter for iPhone

751 Retweets 216 Quote Tweets 1,570 Likes



Please see the video file of the video posted to Twitter by @sfyro on February 16, 2022 accompanying this Affidavit.

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A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, etc.



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← Thread

Sean Flynn
@sfyro

...

OMG! The [#FreedomConvoy2022](#) trucks are gone and it's quiet at Rideau/Sussex. For those keeping score:

- ✓ Orange Bronco 🌟
- ✓ TABARNAK Freedom truck 🌟
- ✓ Jesus Evildoers UHaul 🌟
- ✓ DJ Cotton Eye Joe 🌟
- ✓ 45 dB at Rideau/Sussex 🥂

[#RamRanchResistance](#) [#Ottawa](#) [#ConvoyGoHome](#)

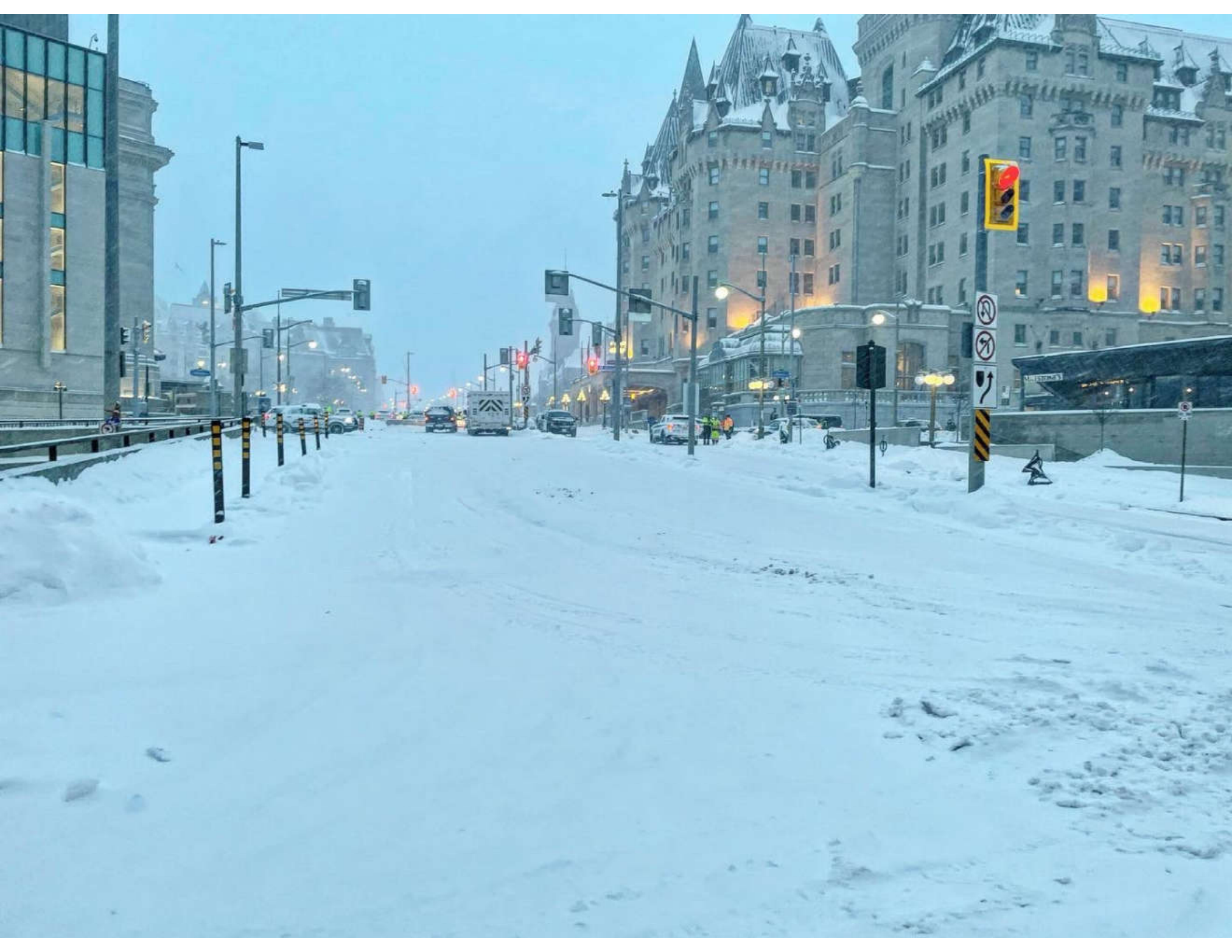


Occasional Transport

8:07 AM · Feb 19, 2022 from CF Rideau Centre · Twitter for iPhone

60 Retweets 7 Quote Tweets 427 Likes









Noise

07:15

45 dB



✓ OK

Long-term exposure to
sounds at this level should
not affect your hearing.